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Message  
to the  
TROOPS



Ronald Kelly  
Life support fabric  
worker

"I am behind our  
troops 100 percent. Every  
time I hear the national  
anthem now, it means  
something different. They  
are over there doing what  
it stands for, and I am  
proud of every one of  
them."

U.S. Air Force image by Ed Aspera

# ‘The only game in town’

## ■653rd CLSS Damage Docs patch, repair aircraft for battle in Operation Iraqi Freedom

By Lanorris Askew  
[lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil](mailto:lanorris.askew@robins.af.mil)

With their aircraft battered and torn from the fight, aircrews of battle damaged aircraft depend on the ‘damage doctors’ to get them back into the fray.

During the conflict in Iraq, the 653rd Combat Logistics Support Squadron have been the ‘MD’s’ carefully patching and repairing aircraft, making them airworthy to fly and fight again.

Senior Master Sgt. Thomas Cain, training flight maintenance superintendent, said a number of the unit’s members are deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom doing their unique job.

“The 653rd CLSS provides highly trained, worldwide deployable teams to repair battle damaged aircraft and help with supply and surface freight management operations,” he said. “We’re the only game in town for aircraft battle damage repair, and our uniqueness lies in our training.”

At least once a year the 653rd ABDR technicians don their chemical warfare suits and play war. During these ‘exercises’ the 653rd prepares for situations like those they face now.

“We train to do our job in a

‘wartime environment,’” said Cain. “If you think about it we have a gun in one hand and a wrench in the other. We train intensely for this job.”

Teams of qualified individuals including, crew chiefs, structural technicians, fuel technicians, electrical/environmental technicians and hydraulics technicians are steadily making sure that aircraft are ready to do their job.

“While everybody can perform the others jobs somewhat, you still need that specialization for the different areas,” he said. “In that aspect the teams are pretty much all encompassing.”

Working in theater from what is called a “war wagon,” members of the 653rd show their adept skills sometimes working without power. The 653rd must always be prepared.

The highly trained technicians are prepared for immediate worldwide deployment to support F-15, C-130, C-141, C-17, C-5 and HH-53/60 aircraft battle damage repair and crash recovery operations.

Supply and transportation teams remain equally prepared to provide immediate worldwide response to assist in total asset visibility, traffic



U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp  
Aircraft battle damage repair instructor Tech. Sgt. Dennis Perine, with the 653rd Combat Logistics Support Squadron, accesses the simulated damage of a piercing projectile to an F-15 that is used for training.

See 653rd ... Page A-2



U.S. Air Force photos by Sue Sapp  
Mary Perdue, first lady of Georgia, talks with pre-schoolers at Robins Elementary School during a visit to the base April 14.

## Governor’s wife shares message with children

■Mrs. Sonny Perdue reads ‘Miss Twiggley’s Tree’ to pre-schoolers

By Chris Zdrakas  
78th Air Base Wing

More than 20 pre-schoolers sat crisscross applesauce — that’s teacher talk for modestly — on the carpeted floor at Robins Elementary School April 14 as Mary Perdue, wife of Georgia Governor Sonny Perdue, prepared to read the colorful tale of “Miss Twiggley’s Tree.”

“Do you know who I’m married to?” she asked.

Without hesitation, a child replied, “Your husband.”

She explained her husband is the governor of Georgia. Did they know what he does?

“Chimneysweep?” asked one.



Matthew Haley shakes Perdue’s hand during her visit to Robins Elementary School.

“Cameraman?” offered another.

“My husband,” she said, “leads the whole state.”

Perdue told the children she used to read to her

See PERDUE ... Page A-3

## 5th CCG wins community service award for third time

By Chris Zdrakas  
78th Air Base Wing

The 5th Combat Communications Group, shouting a spirited “Let’s Go” — the 5th’s motto — became three-time winners of the Community Service Award Tuesday.

The seventh such award sponsored by the Military Affairs Committee of the Warner Robins Chamber of Commerce, it recognizes the volunteer efforts of base organizations to the community.

Runners-up, sharing equal status, were the 78th Mission Support Group and the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center Space and Special Systems Directorate.

Maj. Gen. Donald J.



U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp  
Col. David A. Cotton accepts the Community Service Award trophy for the 5th CCG.

Wetekam, Center commander, and Janis Wiggins, chairman of the Warner Robins Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs

Committee, presented plaques to the runners-up and a trophy to the winner. The winner keeps the trophy for a year and returns it for presentation the following year.

Col. David A. Cotton, the 5th’s commander, said the community has welcomed the military, and members of his organization feel a responsibility to give back to the community. He described the support from both the community and award sponsors as “outstanding.” The 5th has continued its volunteer efforts at a time when half its members are deployed.

Col. Tom Smoot, 78th Air Base Wing commander, said the work Robins’ volunteers perform is part of a greater

national picture “that brings into sharp focus what happens when good people become good neighbors.”

He said Robins has a “long history” of community volunteerism lead by leaders such as Wetekam and others before him.

“The humanitarian efforts of Robins volunteers are a force multiplier of major social and economic proportions,” he said. A 2002 national survey calculated at \$16.54 the national average value of one hour of volunteer work.

Wetekam said volunteerism has been one of the cornerstones in the effective relationship Robins and its

See 5th ... Page A-2

## News service story misleading on pay raise

By Robins Civilian Personnel Office

On March 21, President George Bush signed an executive order that provides Federal General Schedule employees a 4.1 percent pay raise. Most employees have already received a 3.1 percent pay raise, which was effective Jan. 12. The executive order adds approximately .9 percent earmarked as locality pay, to the 3.1 percent pay raise, and makes it retroactive to Jan. 12. The 2003 Special Salary Rate schedules are not affected by the increase in locality pay percentages, nor are Robins Federal Wage System employees, as explained below.

In the April 4 edition of the Rev-Up, there was an Air Force News article concerning the retroactive pay raise (‘Federal employees will see bump in

pay’) that incorrectly led readers to conclude that FWS employees at Robins would receive this retroactive pay adjustment this month. FWS employees at Robins will not see any pay increase resulting from the implementation of this retroactive adjustment because the local pay adjustment for FWS employees was already effected in August 2002. However, FWS employees may benefit in the future from this retroactive increase in that it could result in an increase to the pay cap for FWS employees.

The new 2003 salary tables are posted on the Office of Personnel Management’s Web site at <http://www.opm.gov/oca/03tables/html/RUS.asp> and on Robins Civilian Personnel home page.

Payment for the retroactive portion of the pay adjustments may be spread

across several pay periods depending on when the Defense Finance and Accounting Service receives the pay action. Completion of the entire process will vary depending on how many records will be processed and how many intervening actions need to be corrected.

Implementation of this retroactive pay adjustment will be handled on two fronts. Based on the latest information available to us, the Air Force Personnel Center will run a mass update to effect this action for all entitled Air Force employees. However, there are approximately 1,800 employees at Robins for whom manual corrections and adjustments to intervening personnel actions must be completed. We anticipate this local effort will kick off within the next month and be completed as quickly as possible.



## 653rd

Continued from A-1

management, and rapid area distribution support and more. Supply teams from the 653rd deployed as part of a rapid distribution support team to issue new and improved chemical warfare suits to troops already deployed to the area of operations.

According to Tech. Sgt. Michael Walker, of the 653rd, all branches of the military now use these new suits.

He said the suits can be worn longer, which enables soldiers to stay in the field longer.

“One of the taskings of the 653rd being in the combat logistics arena is to go in and assist with normal base supply during a bare base buildup,” said Walker. “Due to the influx of people in the-ater there was an accelerated need and additional man power needed to get the suits to the soldiers.”

Other improvements to the suits include a more customized fit, a more light-weight and cool material, and they have a longer life span.

Walker said the suit can be washed and reused a number of times.

The job of the 653rd is not limited to ABDR and supply.

The unit also supports peacetime depot-level modifications, and repair and technical assistance to all major commands, other US government agencies and allied nations. Providing the best training opportunities to keep their skills finely honed.



U.S. Air Force photo by Sue Sapp

Tech. Sgt. Michael Walker helps Tech. Sgt. Stephanie Hickman don a chemical suit. Walker and Hickman are both logistics management craftsmen with the 653rd Combat Logistics Support Squadron.

“The level of capability that we have and the repairs we are authorized to make, normal field units are not authorized to do,” said Tech Sgt Dennis Perine, aircraft battle damage repair instructor.

“We are able to get in and do the battle damage and complex repairs. Our training is above and beyond what you would normally have in a flying unit.”

Walker said they have a great deal of value during

time of contingencies to be able to get people out to the front and support the flying missions.

Perine said they make both structural and systems repairs but structural repairs usually dominate their time.

“The hardest repairs are the newer aircraft that have more of composite type or more up to date technology,” he said.

Though some fixes may be more time consuming than others, none ever defeat the capabilities of the 653rd.

# Former Robins employee sentenced for FECA fraud

By Department of Civilian Personnel, Employee Relations

A former Robins employee was convicted of Federal Employees' Compensation Act fraud, and sentenced to serve five months imprisonment, five months house arrest with electronic monitoring and three years of supervised probation March 31.

U.S. District Judge Duross Fitzpatrick also ordered the former aircraft electrician to pay \$97,635.13 in restitution.

Based on an anonymous tip, an investigation resulted in evidence proving the employee worked and earned income by performing carpentry, painting and construction work during the period of 1997 to 2001.

Federal laws governing employee compensation benefits require recipients to report changes to medical or employment status. Those receiving benefits are also required to accurately report all earnings during an annual certification forwarded to the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs.

The employee falsified his annual certifications by declaring no earnings and no change in disability on forms submitted in 1998, 1999, 2000 and 2001, according to JoAnn Hutchison, Chief, Work force Effectiveness Branch.

The employee pleaded guilty to charges of making false statements in connection with receipt of Federal Workers' Compensation benefits, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1920, on Jan. 6, 2003.

The former Robins employee sustained an on-the-job injury in April 1989, according to his plea agreement. He returned to duty but sustained recurrences of the disability. The last recurrence was in July 1995. The employee began receiving benefits in August 1995, and continued to receive compensation through November 2001.

Submitting a claim for an injury that didn't occur on the job is a crime. Falsifying any part of a claim is also a crime, even if no ben-

**What to know:**

Information concerning individuals suspected of fraudulent receipt of benefits can be made directly to FECA Investigators at 926-3681 or 926-3769, or to the Injury Compensation Unit at 926-4971.

efits are paid against that claim. According to Hutchison, Robins currently pays more than \$12 million in workers' compensation benefits annually to current and former employees.

Individuals legitimately injured and disabled are entitled to receive those benefits, but those workers making false compensation claims are subject to serious repercussions.

"There is an active investigative program on Robins Air Force Base dedicated to uncovering other fraudulent cases such as this," she said. "These individuals are breaking the law, and costing Robins hundreds of thousands of dollars each year. This money is needed to ensure the readiness of aircraft and supplies used in the support of our troops and the defense of our country. Such investigations will continue at Robins with anticipated consequences for those who knowingly submit false claims."

The case was investigated by the Robins FECA investigator, Air Force Office of Special Investigations, U.S. Department of Labor, and the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. Assistant United States Attorney Paul C. McCommon III prosecuted the case for the government.

Fraudulent receipt of Federal Employees' Compensation Act benefits is a serious offense, and according to Hutchison, Robins is taking an aggressive stance in detecting and prosecuting offenders.

## 5th

Continued from A-1

community neighbors enjoy. He described the relationship as “second to none...as strong as any military/community partnership in America.” The base’s volunteerism, he said, is not about

awards; it was about doing something for the people.

Pat Bartness, chairman of the Warner Robins Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, who announced the winners, said this year’s nominations contained achievements spanning “an incredibly diverse range of individual and group activities involv-

ing hundreds of personnel and counting thousands of volunteer service hours. The selection process, he said, “is never easy.”

Bartness said there are no winners or losers in the competition — the community wins because of the base’s efforts, and civilian and military relationships are enhanced and strengthened.

“Last, but not least,” he said, “the men and women who do the work are winners whenever they see the grateful smiles, feel the firm handshakes and hear the sincere expressions toward an old and constant friend of Warner Robins and Middle Georgia,” he said.

The 5th has been involved in

hundreds of community support projects in volunteer hours that reach into the thousands. Their work has benefited schools, charitable organizations, churches, hospitals and recreational groups. Bartness said the group carries on “the spirit of dedicated service in the finest traditions of the Air Force.”

Causey  
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Armed forces  
56884201



U.S. Air Force photos by Sue Sapp  
Mary Perdue, first lady of Georgia, shares her love of reading with students at the base elementary school. She enjoys reading books that are fun and contain a life lesson.

 To see this story in streaming video, go to <http://www.robins.af.mil/pa/stream/index.htm>

# Kitchen fires can be prevented

■ So why are they still the most common residential fire?

## Robins Air Force Base Fire Department

Unattended cooking in Air Force Housing is the leading cause of kitchen fires. Those fires cause 80 percent more injuries and property damage than any other cause. The base fire prevention office can't stress enough to occupants that the trend can be drastically reduced through education and awareness.

According to RAFBI 32-2001, military sponsors are responsible for fire prevention in their quarters. They are ultimately responsible for ensuring their dependants are aware of and follow sound fire prevention practices at home. Sponsors are required to attend a fire prevention orientation briefing scheduled through the housing office within 30 days after moving into their unit along with their dependants (spouse, or other qualifying adult in the household).

Please take into consideration these basic fire safety rules for cooking at home:

- Never leave cooking unattended.
- Know what to do in the event of a fire. When you set the pan on the stove, have the lid and potholders nearby. If a fire occurs in a pan or pot on top of the stove, put a lid on it and turn the burner off. Do not attempt to move a pan that has caught fire.
- Never apply water, salt or flour on a grease fire.
- Know how to use your fire extinguisher and inspect it monthly.
- Ensure the range queen extinguishers located above your stove in the hood are

- properly mounted.
  - If you have to leave the stove, turn it off or have another person attend it who will know what to do in the event of a fire.
  - Never use camping equipment or propane or charcoal grills under overhangs or in your unit.
  - Clean appliances daily or after each use. Grease accumulates quickly and will accelerate the spread of fire.
  - Ensure matches and other flammables are not stored above or near the stove or other appliances that produce heat.
  - Double check to ensure burners are turned off after cooking is completed.
  - Unplug portable appliances when not in use, i.e., toasters, coffee pots, toaster ovens, bread machines, electric skillets, irons and crock pots.
- The fire prevention office highly recommends that all personnel residing on base living in government quarters to include base dormitories should purchase renter's insurance. Renter's insurance is relatively inexpensive and can be obtained through local insurance providers. In many cases the provider of your car insurance will give you a discount for opening another policy with them. Remember, dial 911, whether the fire has been extinguished or not the base fire department must be notified. Last but not least, ensure all family members leave the home and go directly to a designated meeting place for accountability.
- For further information on fire safety at home or work, call the fire prevention office at 926-2145.

## ROBINS CLUBS

### Officers' Christian Fellowship

Meets each Monday at 7 p.m. For more information, contact Chris or Deb Holinger at 218-4598.

### Robins' Voices International Training in Communication Club

Meets the first Thursday of each month at 11:45 a.m. in the special functions room of the base restaurant. For information on the communication organization, call Evelyn Fountain, 926-7429 or Nancy Kwiatkowski, 923-1752.

*Editor's Note: Information is provided by club members. To have your club or group's information included or updated, submit it to Angela Trunzo in the WR-ALC Public Affairs office, Bldg. 215, Room 106, by e-mail at [angela.trunzo@robins.af.mil](mailto:angela.trunzo@robins.af.mil) or by fax at 926-9597.*

## PERDUE

Continued from A-1

children — two boys and two girls — and that she now had twin 4-year-old grandchildren. When she asked how many in the room were 4, many hands shot up. She also said she liked reading books that are both fun and contain a life lesson. Among the lessons in the book were helping others and overcoming shyness. Perdue appeared to have the story memorized, holding it up in front of her and glancing down to point to people and animals in the book.

In the story, Mrs. Twiggley's town had an emergency — a flood, which brought the townspeople to stay with her since she lived in a tree house. A couple of the children knew exactly what to do in case of emergency.

“When you have a fire, you call 9-1-1,” one said. “You call 9 ELEVEN,” another corrected. The children gave Perdue a photo of them and a thank-you card the class had signed. Perdue said she would display the photo “at my new house in Atlanta.”

## Message

to the  
**TROOPS**



“You are doing a wonderful job. The Governor and I support you and pray for you every day. Keep up the good work and come home safely..”

**Mary Perdue**  
First lady of Georgia

U.S. Air Force image by Ed Aspera

McGruff the Crime Dog made an appearance and gave her an “April is Child Abuse Prevention Month” blue ribbon.

In another room at the school, 78th Security Forces were photographing and fingerprinting children in “Operation Child Find,” one of the activities planned for the month.



Pre-schoolers at Robins Elementary School listen to Mrs. Sonny Perdue read 'Miss Twiggley's Tree.' Among the lessons in the book were helping others and overcoming shyness.

Westminster  
57089601

Parisian  
57083201



# As ‘Good’ as it gets

By Environmental Management Directorate Office

Robins earned top marks during the Environmental Compliance Assessment and Management Program out brief April 14.

Michael Trimeloni, ECAMP team chief from Headquarters Air Force Materiel Command, told Robins senior leadership he was pleased to announce that Robins received the highest overall rating of “Good.”

“It is obvious that people all over the base are doing good work - let’s keep it up,” said Brig. General Darryl Scott, Center vice commander and Environmental Protection Committee chairman. However, he cautioned against becoming complacent and recommended senior leadership continues to emphasize the importance of compliance.

All 13 major environmental compliance protocols were inspected to include Air Emissions, Cultural Resources, Natural Resources, Hazardous Materials and Waste, Pesticides, Petroleum, Oil and Lubricants, Solid Waste, Storage Tanks, Toxic Substances, Wastewater, Water Quality and other environmental issues.

Steve Coyle, Warner Robins Air Logistics Center Environmental Management director, said the credit for the excellent inspection results is directly related to the outstanding support provided by the entire Robins team.

“The number of findings indicated at least two things,” he said. “The ECAMP evaluators were tough, and we have a lot of work to do to maintain our excellent track record. The results are not surprising considering the size of the base, the industrial mission and the age of our infrastructure.”

Several of the issues were already self-identified during an earlier inspection.”

Now the clock is ticking to get the management plans completed to address the findings. The intent is not to just close the findings but to ensure the root cause is addressed so the problem does not reoccur. ECAMP is similar to Back to Basics inspections...find and fix problems before they become serious.

The primary objective of the overall ECAMP program and assessment team’s visit is to improve Air Force Environmental Management worldwide, meet compliance standards and build supporting financial programs and budgets for funding environmental requirements.

Secondary objectives are to eliminate underlying environmental problems through root cause analysis and identify systemic environmental problems and forecast future compliance requirements.

## Top contributors

Several individuals were recognized for their contributions during the inspection; they are:

**Mario Largaespada**, MAN-MPC; for finding and testing an alternate product for cleaning paint guns. This product contains no Aerospace NESHAP solvents and is less of a hazardous to workers.

**Shawn Politino** and **Russ Adams**, WR-ALC/EM; for developing a more user friendly ACCESS database that allows direct input of required water quality data. This system also generates required monthly reports automatically.

**Deborah Peterman, John Hyde** and **Paul Barker**, WR-ALC/EM; for developing and implementing a Web-based UST/AST Maintenance and Compliance system. This system will allow tank managers to complete required inspections using PDA’s and directly inputting the data. The system also automatically reminds managers if inspections are not completed.

**James Pettis**, 78 LRS/LGRF and David Brantley, 78 CES/CEIX; for installing spill proof nozzles on the fuel trucks and connectors on the base fuel tanks. This system virtually eliminates the possibility of spills during fuel transfer.

**Billy Ashley**, 78 CES/CEUW; teamed with EM to obtain topic specific training to ensure operators are able to identify potential drinking water system difficulties before they become problems. His efforts have resulted in a flawlessly operated system and earned praise from the Georgia DNR.

**Joe Rouse, Debra Garrigus** and **Sherry McPherson**, WR-ALC/MAN; for their support of the Point-of-Use (POU) stations. They break down HAZMATs into smaller quantities, monitor the POUs twice a day and restock as necessary. The smaller quantities result in almost complete usage, reducing hazardous waste by 30 percent.

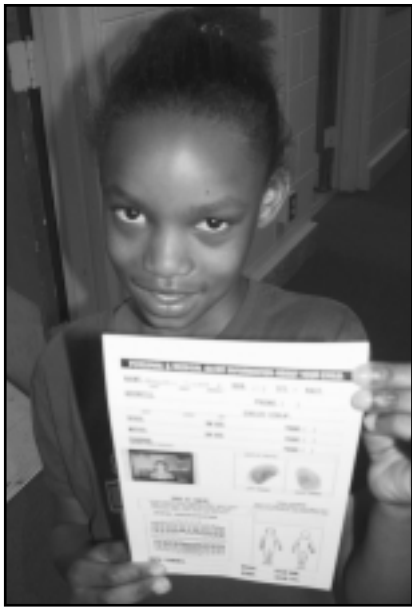
Other individuals recognized for supporting ECAMP above and beyond the call of duty:

**Wendell Ratterree**, 78 CES/CEIP, **Staff Sgt Christopher Mott**, 53rd CBCS, **Vicki Shealy**, WR-ALC/MABQS, **Thomas Cain**, 78 CES/CEAV, **Ellen King**, 116 CE/CEC, **1st Lt. Darin Pierce**, 116th ACW/MSG

# Hands Across Robins



Airman 1st Class Morgan Maul fingerprints second-grader Ashely Oreen during the Hands Across Robins program at Robins Elementary School April 14.



Top, ‘McGruff’ greets students at the school. Middle, fingerprints provide parents with a resource tool. Bottom, Tiyana Boswell holds her identification card.

U.S. Air Force photos by

Sue Sapp

The Family Advocacy Office and the 78th Security Forces Squadron partnered with Robins Elementary School for its Hands Across Robins child identification program April 14.

The program took place at at the school, with special guest “McGruff” the crime dog on hand.

Veronica Griffin, FAO outreach and prevention program manager, said the

child identification day is a way to provide parents with the necessary resource tool to help police locate a missing child.

The cards include the child's fingerprints, dental chart, hair strand for DNA purposes, as well as other vital information regarding the child's identity. Cards issued during the Hands Across Robins event are funded through the 78th SFS.

## Winston Cup Car on display today at Museum of Aviation

By Tonya McClure, marketing director Museum of Aviation



Submitted photo

The Museum of Aviation will host the #21 Air Force Winston Cup Car today from 2-5 p.m. in front of the Eagle Building.

The #21 Winston Cup Car is an Air Force sponsored car with a special paint scheme honoring the Centennial of Flight. 2003 marks the 100th Anniversary of Manned Flight. The car will race in the Coca-Cola 600 in Charlotte, N.C., May 25.

Although the driver will not be accompanying the car, a crewmember will be on hand to discuss the car's performance and design.

There will be photo opportunities for fans with the car.

For more information, please call Tonya McClure at the Museum, 926-6870.

## Deployed Spouses meeting scheduled for April 29

You are invited to a deployed spouses' meeting with Maj. Gen. Donald J. Wetekam, Warner Robins Air Logistics Center commander, for new information and updates

The meeting will be held April 29, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the Smith Community Center Ballroom

The Center Commander will speak to the attendees for a few minutes, then allow time for questions and answers. Information tables will be set up with Subject Matter Experts from the following activities:

- Financial Management (Military Pay, Benefits and Entitlements; Travel Vouchers)
- Legal Issues (Powers of Attorney, Wills, Leases, miscellaneous)
- Housing (on-base, contract and rental)
- Family Support
- Services (Child & Youth issues, miscellaneous)
- Medical (TRICARE, appointments, special needs)
- Military Personnel Flight (ID cards)
- Chaplain

A corner of the Ballroom will be divided off for school-age children's activities with FSC staff.

For more information, contact the Family Support Center at 926-1256.

It would be most helpful for planning purposes if you would call the Family Support Center to tell us you will be attending.

— From staff reports

## Countdown to MSEP continues

### ■Proper maintenance of tools helps control costs

By Holly J. Logan holly.logan@robins.af.mil

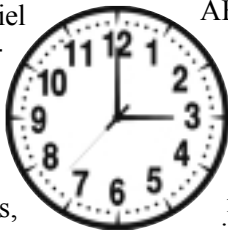
Air Force Materiel Command has provided policies and procedures for maintaining and implementing tools within its units, depots, etc. through its Tool Control Accountability Program.

Here are some of the requirements all personnel should exercise for proper tool control:

Personal tools are prohibited in any maintenance work area.

Tool kit contents are standardized by skill, task, work area, or a combination of these. Layout and kit design cannot be modified.

All tool kit materials must



13 days to MSEP

be marked with the tool kit identification number. Items must remain marked clearly. Tools too small to mark must be kept in a container marked with the item, tool number, and quantity of tool.

Personal items must be stored only in one personal drawer, clearly marked 'personal,' within the toolkit.

AFMC Form 309 (tool inventory) must be initiated daily upon completion of shift inventory. Use of maintenance stamps is prohibited. Required 90-day supervisor inventories must be annotated on the form as well.

The tool kit custodial receipt listing specifies the tool kit identification number, tool kit contents, and inventory purposes. The TKCRL must remain in the tool kit.

*Editor's Note: Jackie Rozier from the Maintenance Directorate contributed to this article.*

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# Sticking it to you

■Maj. Kristi Davis makes sure troops are healthy for military conflict

By Holly J. Logan  
holly.logan@robins.af.mil

**The BIG picture**

Maj. Kristi Davis said her number one priority at Robins is to make sure military members are healthy for military conflict, and their families’ needs are met, while members are deployed. Davis, flight commander of the Medicine Flight, described her role in the 78th Medical Group as “fire driven,” with each day notably different from the last.

“Today I could be writing operation instructions, but tomorrow I could be looking at immunization guidance to see if we’re meeting our standards like we should be,” she said. “No matter what happens in my work day, it’s my job to make sure everything is running smoothly.”

Charged with coordinating services for the Pediatric, Family Practice, Internal Medicine and Allergy/Immunization clinics, Davis is responsible for directing the staff and ensuring patients’ needs are met.

“Part of my job is to make sure our people are provided with the right education - through one-on-one career counseling and group meetings - to improve their skill-level on the job,” she said. “I, along with others on my staff, also educate people at the Houston Medical Center on how to handle the different vaccinations.”

Davis, formerly a clinical nurse in the Family Practice Clinic, said one of the most recent vaccinations she has had to administer is the smallpox vaccine.

“One of the things I do is to make sure the smallpox vaccines are administered properly, and oversee possible side effects of the vaccine,” she said. “The smallpox vaccine is to be handled with respect. You have to follow the Center for Disease Control’s rules or you could have an on-site reaction.”



U.S. Air Force photos by Sue Sapp  
Maj. Kristi Davis gives a shot to Staff Sgt. Thomas Wigington. She said the best part of her job is taking care of people’s needs.



Davis prepares a needle for immunization.

Health care workers in Davis’ area were the first eight to receive the smallpox vaccine Air Force wide.

“The biggest thing we face with vaccines is alleviating people’s fears related to things they’ve heard,” she said. “Small pox is seen as a biological weapon of terror. I’ve researched it well. Most people’s fears are based on the unknown.”

Davis, a member of the U.S Air Force since 1988, said the best part of her job is taking care of people’s needs.

“Even on the worst days, you can make a difference by helping someone through providing referrals, helping them with appointments, etc.,” she said. “I figure if I can help in these small ways, I can help reduce people’s stress.”

While the Cartersville, Ga. native said her job is an important part of the Robins mission, its importance is interdependent on other parts of the big picture.

“It’s easy to think, ‘my job is most important out here,’ but no one person’s job is more important than any other, she said. “If one person’s piece is missing, the picture just isn’t complete.”

### What to know:

For information on immunizations for military members call 327-7921. For children's immunizations, contact the Pediatric Clinic at 327-8219.

## Checkmate ...



U.S. Air Force photos by Sue Sapp  
Austin Riba, the first place winner in the youth category, checks his partner’s chess piece at the Chess Tournament held at the Smith Community Center April 9.

## Rec center hosts chess tourney

Twelve members of the Robins community got the opportunity to show off their strategic talents recently during a chess tournament at the Smith Community Center.

The winners in the adult category were:

- 1st place - Drew Grills
- 2nd place - Irfan Khan
- 3rd place - Aaron Hill

The winners in the youth category were:

- 1st place - Austin Riba



2nd place - Alexander Riba

The purpose of the tournament was to provide additional opportunities for families, youth and other community members to

participate in a recreational/educational activity, said Cheryl Dollard, the director of Smith Community Center. The Community Center Chess Club meets every Tuesday, 4 - 6 p.m., in the Smith Community Center ballroom.

Beginner to advanced players of all ages are welcome to join. For more information, contact Dollard at 926-2105.

— From staff reports

Huntington  
57083101

Beds  
56980801

Check out the Robins Rev-Up online at:  
<http://www.robins.af.mil/pa/revup-online/index.htm>

# Domestic violence and why people stay

By Judi Derriso  
Treatment Manager

When we said in our marriage vows “for better or for worse,” it was not supposed to mean enduring abuse in a relationship from someone who loves us.

The components of a good marriage are trust, mutual respect, and always being on the same team no matter what.

Abuse can be physical, emotional, or both. Emotional scarring often takes even longer to heal than

physical. And contrary to popular belief, men or women may suffer in abusive relationships. In fact, 25 percent of domestic violence victims are men.

We may have a friend or a neighbor who stays in an abusive situation, and we are critical of them, thinking ‘why don’t they just get out?’

There are a number of reasons that keep people stuck. The first is the most obvious and basic — no job, no money, no car and nowhere to go.

The second is the hope

**National Domestic Violence Awareness Month**

that things will get better as batterers are generally repentant after an act. Just because someone hurts us doesn’t mean that we stop loving them. Unhooking emotionally is very hard. The third reason is fear of the unknown; that any spouse is better than no spouse or that the obstacles just seem overwhelming.

The fourth reason is that men and women come to believe they don’t deserve

•Is this the role model or environment that I want my children to be raised in?

Victims of domestic violence have choices.

All domestic violence does not have to end in divorce if the batterer is willing to face his or her issues - whether it’s substance abuse, anger management or other issues. At Family Advocacy, we provide case management and counseling to help a person overcome the obstacles

and provide support during the process. We can provide services to husbands, wives and children to help empower them to move forward with their life.

For more information, call Family Advocacy at 327-8398.

Also, beginning Monday there will be educational displays set up at the Smith Community Center, the Base Restaurant and the library, Bldg. 905.

## Family Support Center offers programs and services for families

### Air Force Aid

Air Force’s way of taking care of its own through interest-free loans or grants for emergencies and basic needs.

- Emergency Leave Travel
- Basic Living Needs
- Car Repair
- Respite Care
- Community Enhancement Programs
- Give Parents A Break (Active Duty Air Force)
- Child Care for PCS (Active Duty Air Force)
- Car Care Because We Care Certificates (For Spouses Of Active Duty Air Force Member’s Remote or TDY Over 30 Days)
- Bundles For Babies & Infant Care (Active Duty Air Force)
- Child Care for Volunteer
- Hap Arnold Education Grants Program
- Emergency Assistance Provided To Retirees and Members of the Army, Navy and Marine Corps

### Career Focus Program

Douglas (Doug) Jones

Career Focus Program — assists individuals and family members with short- and long-term career goals. Provides individual career counseling and assessment to prepare customers for local and long distance job search.

The manager also provides: local labor market information, skills and interests identification, job bank or job referrals, linkages

to job alternatives, networks for employment contacts, referrals to civilian personnel career counseling, resume reviews, and networks for support and marketing as well as identifying vocational interests skills.

**Information and referral**  
Jim Brewer

Connects individuals and families with the appropriate resource on- or off-base to meet their specific needs. A repository of information and services include: Crisis Intervention with Assessment, Counseling and Referral; Community and Education Resources Guide; Language Finders Program; Various Directories including toll free, Atlanta, and zip codes; Publicity of FSC programs including base newspaper and monthly calendar; Suggestions, feedback, or questions with 1-day response by e-mail at family@robins.af.mil.

### Personal Financial Management Profram

Gene Kirkland

Personal Financial Management Program provides information, education and counseling to help individuals reach and maintain financial stability and realize financial goals. Services include: Money and Credit Management Workshop; Individual Budget Analysis and Counseling; Periodic specialized offerings include: “UNISERV Thrift Savings Plan” and investment options.

Announcement for  
**Hispanic Employment Program Manager**  
(Collateral Duty Assignment)

Announcement  
Number: HEPM-1-03

Opening Date: April 18, 2003  
Closing Date: May 2, 2003

**Purpose of Announcement:** The purpose of this announcement is to provide interested employees an opportunity to apply for the WR-ALC Hispanic Employment Program Manager appointment as a collateral duty assignment.

**Work Schedule:** The duties of this position should constitute no more than 20 percent of the assigned duties of the incumbent. Employee is expected to perform these duties in addition to regularly assigned duties and responsibilities.

**Major roles and responsibilities:** Develop special initiatives based on knowledge of problems or concerns which may be unique to the Hispanic Workforce; assess the status of the program to determine if it is results-oriented; maintain awareness of the selection, utilization, training, and advancement of Hispanic employees; assist in making them aware of career counseling and training opportunities; assist in developing recruitment efforts and participate in recruitment activities; encourage managers to use the DOP or other training programs.

**Eligibility:** Assignment is open to all permanent career or career-conditional Air Force employees assigned to Robins AFB regardless of grade level.

**How to apply:** Submit letter stating interest to 78 MSG/DPCS Attn: Victor Hudson or an email to 78sptg.dpc.staffing@robins.af.mil. Include your name, organization symbol and office telephone extension. Questions can be directed to Victor Hudson at 926-3805 ext 136. Letter or email must be received by COB May 2, 2003. Concurrence at the Directorate/Staff Office level with the letter of application or email at the time of application is required to be considered.

Submit **honor roll** information to Angela Trunzo in the WR-ALC Public Affairs office, Bldg. 215, Room 106, by e-mail at angela.trunzo@robins.af.mil or by fax at 926-9597. Submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. Monday for consideration for Friday’s paper. For more information, call 926-2137.

Passmore  
57083001

Lenn  
56994502

Jimmy  
57042402

Century 21  
57062701

Gold’s  
57089901

Aunt  
57077202

Hamant  
57090101

## Georgia child support guidelines explained

**Civilians:** Civilian employees are required to honor valid debts or legal obligations, including the obligation to make court ordered child support payments. According to Air Force instruction, civilian employees who fail to make court ordered child support payments may be disciplined. In the absence of a court order, a complaint that a civilian employee is failing to support his or her family is a matter appropriate for the state court to resolve. Complainants in such cases should seek assistance from a private attorney or the Houston County Child Support Enforcement Office.

**Military:** Regulations require military members to “adequately” support their dependents (this includes one’s spouse) even in the absence of a court order. The Air Force has no specific minimum; however, a member

will lose BAH at the “with dependent” rate” for failure to support dependents. The Air Force will also recoup “with dependent” rate payments for periods of non-support.

Below are guidelines used by Georgia courts to set the amount of child support. While not a substitute for the good judgment of a commander in determining whether a member is meeting expectations, the Georgia guidelines should be heavily weighted by any commander when making an evaluation of adequate support. Even though commanders can assist you in your efforts to obtain child support, commanders do not decide issues of custody, visitation, property division. Furthermore, their decision of what is “adequate” support is not subject to appeal. The clearest and most enforceable course of action for anyone seeking child or spousal support is to obtain a court order.

**Georgia Child Support Guidelines**

The amount of child support may be determined by multiplying the payor's gross income per pay period by the applicable percentage. The percentages are as follows:

- 17 - 23% for one child
- 23 - 28% for two children
- 25 - 32% for three children
- 29 - 35% for four children
- 31 - 37% for five or more children

Other factors the court may take into account to allow variations of these percentages include:

- Ages of the children
- Medical costs
- Education costs
- Day care costs
- Shared custody arrangements
- Other support (i.e. payment of mortgage)
- Extreme economic circumstances
- Historical spending of the family for the children



## A reflection on Good Friday and Easter

By Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Thomas J. Fey  
Wing Chaplain and Catholic Chaplain

Good Friday is a name that rings with power. But, it is a strange name for the day that marks the anniversary of the death of God's Son, Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

On Good Friday, Christians reflect upon all that Jesus did to bring about our salvation. Jesus' suffering and death upon the cross dealt with sin for all time.

As the perfect mediator between God and man, Jesus took to Himself the sin of all people for all time and paid the full price — death.

How can this day — Good Friday — be called good, when we know that Jesus died and suffered so much for our sakes? The day is good indeed, because by his death all mankind is now free from the effects of sin. The primary effect of sin is spiritual death.

We are now no longer subject to that consequence of sin. This is extremely good for us. By ourselves we could do nothing to change what sin had caused. We could not overcome sin, and we could not know God, the Father, as he intended for us to know him.

That is why he sent his only begotten son into the world.

By the coming of Jesus into the world and into human history, the very fabric of the world and history would be changed. The world would change from hopelessness to hope, from sorrow to happiness.

Christ came to teach about the Father in a way that had never been done before. He, as the Son of God, could tell us about the Father.

He would reveal, perfectly, who the Father is and how much he actually loves and cares for the human race. In Christ, the Old Covenant would be fulfilled and a New Covenant would be established. This new covenant would allow people to know God in a new way through faith. This faith would enable people to join their lives with Christ and thus share in all that he was doing for the salvation of the world.

No longer would men and women be held captive by sin and ignorance of



Fey

Easter is a time of celebrating new life and new hope. It is a time of renewal and looking forward with joy at the coming year. It is time of happiness and rebirth.

God.

God's promise, in the Old Covenant — to send a Savior — would be fulfilled. That Savior would come and teach us about God and his wonderful life-giving and saving love.

That Savior would teach us about love and show us what love really is. All throughout Christ's life he taught about love and giving, "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends (John 15:13)".

Jesus actually did this. He laid down his life for the forgiveness of sins. We can now go to Christ and ask for forgiveness for our personal sins.

We know that Christ loves us completely. We know that he is with us, and we know that he will forgive us if we ask Him. By his death on the cross, Jesus showed us how much God the Father loves us, and how much he loves us. This love was to bring about a change in the possibilities for the human race. No longer held victim by sin, we could now call God, "Father." Hope now was possible, because men and women could be forgiven their sins. Sin would no longer hold

power over us.

Now we see the reason why Good Friday, is a day that is really "good."

It is a good day because the human race has moved from the darkness of sin and death into the loving light of God. It is "good," because we are now free to be God's people.

But, Good Friday is still a day of sadness because our Savior died for us. On Good Friday, we accept the wonderful things that Jesus has done for us and we humbly open ourselves up to great love that God offers to us.

As we think about Good Friday, we realize that we are looking at half of the picture. Jesus died, and he was raised. To complete the picture we must add Easter. Easter completes what Our Lord did for us on Good Friday. This is why Easter is such a great day of joy and happiness.

The cause for our joy is the resurrection of Jesus from the tomb. He has come back to life and He has conquered sin and death.

Death and sin could not, and did not, hold him captive. Jesus was successful in his sacrifice. He is raised from the dead and we are joyful. Christ's resurrection gives us hope, that in and with him we will be free from sin, and we will not be held hostage by sin. As the Father raised Christ from the dead, we

### Chapel Easter services

The Robins Air Force Base Chapel has a full schedule of services for Sunday's joyful celebration of Easter, the major feast day of the Christian year marking the resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

**Protestant Congregation**

- 6:30 a.m., sunrise service, chapel grounds. (No 8 a.m. service)
- 11 a.m., traditional service, base chapel
- 11 a.m., contemporary service, base theater

**Catholic Congregation**

- 9:30 a.m. Easter Mass

The Catholic congregation will have a Good Friday liturgy tonight at 7, and Mass on Holy Saturday at 9 p.m. There will be no 5:30 p.m. Mass or confessions on Holy Saturday.

*Neither the Protestant nor Catholic congregations will have Sunday School this week.*

also can be raised from the dead. Spiritual death now holds no power over the human race. Eternal life in God is now a reality.

Easter is a time of celebrating new life and new hope. It is a time of renewal and looking forward with joy at the coming year. It is time of happiness and rebirth. Easter helps us to deal with the not so joyful or happy times in our lives. Most importantly Easter is a time of thanking God for the gift of his Son.

As we celebrate Easter this year, we must remember that many members of the American Armed Forces are not at home to celebrate Easter with their families and friends.

Our country has been fighting a war of liberation in Iraq. We must ask God to bless and protect all of our troops who are deployed in that war. Our troops are deployed to bring freedom to an oppressed people. May God be with them as they go about their duties to restore order and safety to Iraq. We especially include in our prayers all those who paid the ultimate price in this war of freedom. We remember their families, who will be grieving and suffering this Easter. We ask God to lift their burden and bring them healing and hope. We remember the wounded and the MIA's; we pray that God will heal them of their injuries, restoring them to health. May America never forget what all of our warriors have done for the country, for Iraq and for the world.

## What is Passover and why do we celebrate it?

By Master Sgt. Jeffery J. Kay  
Robins Air Force Base Jewish Lay Leader

Passover, which begins Wednesday, is an eight-day observance commemorating the deliverance of the ancient Hebrews from slavery in Egypt some 3,000 years ago.

The observance is marked by family gatherings and lavish meals called Seders, the focal point of the Passover celebration. During the Seder, the Passover story is retold as it was for generations against the background of special foods, songs and unique customs.

According to the Book of Exodus, God instructed Moses, a simple Jewish shepherd, to go to Pharaoh Ramses II and demand freedom of his people. Pharaoh ignored Moses' now-famous plea, "Let my people go."

He also ignored Moses' warning that the consequences would be dire — God would send severe punishments to the people of Egypt.

Pharaoh ignored Moses' pleas, and God responded with a series of 10 plagues on the people of Egypt: blood, frogs, lice (vermin), wild beasts (flies), blight (cattle disease), boils, hail, locusts, darkness, and the slaying of the first-born.

The holiday's name, Pesach, meaning "passing over" or "protection" in Hebrew, is derived from the instructions God gave Moses. In order to encourage the Pharaoh to free the Israelites, God intended to kill the first-born of both man and beast. To protect themselves, the Israelites were told to mark their dwellings with lamb's blood so that God could identify and "pass over" their homes.

The Pharaoh was steadfast in his refusal to free the Jewish slaves until the last plague. When the Pharaoh finally agreed to their freedom, the Israelites left their homes so quickly there wasn't time to bake their breads. So they packed the raw dough to take with them on their journey. As they fled through the desert they would quickly bake the dough in the hot sun into hard crackers called matzohs. Today to commemorate this event, Jews eat matzohs in place of bread during Passover.

As a faithful Jew of his time, Jesus made a pilgrimage to the Holy Temple in Jerusalem to participate in his people's observance of Pesach. That is one reason the Christian holy days of Good Friday and Easter are coupled in time and place with Passover.

Even in an age like ours when family members frequently live far from one another, Jews still make a modern pilgrimage to "come home" and share the Seder experience with relatives and friends. It is a very special occasion for family gatherings, where people take the time out from their busy schedules to dine together and jointly read over the story of Passover. This holiday reminds us of our bond with God and reiterates our freedom as we enjoy it today.

Happy Passover.

Action Line is an open door program for Robins Air Force Base personnel to ask questions, make suggestions or give kudos to make Robins a better place to work and live.

Please remember that the most efficient and effective way to resolve a problem or complaint is to directly contact the organization responsible. This gives the organization a chance to help you, as well as a chance to improve their processes. To contact the Action Line, call 926-2886 day or night, or for quickest response e-mail to one of the following addresses: If sending from a military e-mail system select, Robins



### Commanders' Action Line

Col. Tom Smoot, Jr.  
Commander,  
78th Air Base Wing

Maj. Gen. Donald Wetekam  
Commander,  
Warner Robins  
Air Logistics Center



Commanders Action Line from the Global Address List. If sending from a commercial e-mail account (AOL, AT+T, CompuServe, Earthlink, etc.), use action.line@robins.af.mil. Readers can also access Action Line by visiting the Robins AFB homepage at <https://wwwmil.robins.af.mil/actionline.htm>. Please include your name and a way of reaching you so we can

provide a direct response. Action Line items of general interest to the Robins community will be printed in the Rev-Up. Anonymous Action Lines will not be processed.

### Handicapped parking at child development center

What can be done about people illegally parking in base handicap spots, specifically the one at the Child Development Center?

I have a handicapped child and a parking permit for him. I also have one other child that uses the facility. That parking permit enables me to ensure a safe and easy transition during drop off and pick up of my sons, but only if that one spot is available.

I cannot begin to tell you how many times each week I speak to people who are illegally parked there and get the same old response - "There's no where else to park." This is an almost daily occurrence. I've brought it up to the wonderful staff at the CDC. I fully understand that it is not their job to enforce parking policy. But it is not mine, either. I am close to blowing up at someone for this inconsideration.

**Col. Smoot replies:** Thank you for your call. I'm sorry that you've encountered difficulty with folks parking in the handicapped space. We sent a reminder to our parents via our email messaging system and posted signs at the front desk stressing the importance of not parking in designated areas. The CDC staff will do their best to monitor the space and remind parents as they see violators. We have also requested CDC staff to park in the designated lot behind the center and in front of the teen center. This should assist parents as they arrive and depart from the facility. Additionally, our security forces may use towing services to remove vehicles parked illegally in handicapped parking. Please contact Pam Martinez, CDC director, at 926-5805, if you encounter any additional problems

### Explain errors in self-nomination computer system

I recently tried to update my resume and check the status

on other jobs I had applied for and once I put my Social Security Number into the system, the computer message stated I didn't exist. I've been employed on Robins for 22 years and now I've been lost in the system. I'm concerned that the system has messed me up because my records didn't show up on the last two WG-12 tallies, even though I applied for those positions. Can someone tell me why my name isn't showing up in the promotion system? Thank you.

**Gen. Wetekam replies:** The Civilian Personnel Office has validated that you, indeed, are still active in the personnel data system, and that you were not removed from the system at any time. Additionally, research of the system revealed you have self-nominated for vacant positions and specifically for the WG-12 positions filled at Robins. A representative from the Personnel Office will be contacting you to discuss the problem you are experiencing and to schedule an appointment to ensure a complete understanding of self-nomination procedures under the new system. If you encounter a problem before you are contacted, please call Angela Ard at 926-3805, ext. 117 for immediate assistance.



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